11.2 Library Services - Quarterly Report

REPORT BY THE MANAGER LIBRARY SERVICES
TO 17 JUNE 2020 ORDINARY MEETING
GOV400087, F0620020

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the report by the Manager Library Services on the Library Services - Quarterly Report.

Executive summary

The Library Services – Quarterly Report seeks to inform Council of the activities undertaken by the Mid-Western Regional Council Library Service, under the broad outlines of Customer Visits, Library Borrowings, Purchased Items, Strategic Partnerships, and Sustainable Organisation. This report covers the period January – March 2020.

Disclosure of Interest

Nil

Detailed report

CUSTOMER VISITS, LIBRARY BORROWINGS & PURCHASED ITEMS

Visits to our Library branches during the Jan-Mar 2020 period decreased slightly when compared to the previous quarter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Visits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar 2020</td>
<td>21,777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec 2019</td>
<td>22,916</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Across the Library Service, loans of library items increased slightly when compared to the previous quarter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Loans</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar 2020</td>
<td>21,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec 2019</td>
<td>19,793</td>
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Loans from the Mobile Library remained stable, when compared to the previous quarter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Loans</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar 2020</td>
<td>1,564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec 2019</td>
<td>1,604</td>
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</table>

The use of library eresources (library subscribed databased) has increased by 62%, when compared to the previous quarter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Accesses</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar 2020</td>
<td>3,371</td>
</tr>
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</table>
The Library continues to purchase new items in line with the Collection Management Strategy. These items include audio books, magazines, fiction and nonfiction for adults and children in both print and electronic format, and DVDs.

**STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS**

The Library continues to support the Rotary/Council Mudgee Town Hall Cinema partnership on Council’s behalf, by providing continuous administrative support, liaising with film distributors and Rotary, and provision of online/over the counter ticket sales. Over the Jan-Mar 2020 period this totalled approximately 50 support hours by Library staff, and included 27 screenings, reaching 1,984 movie patrons.

Mudgee Museum continues to be a Library Partner, providing an historical display exhibit at Mudgee Library, which is replaced frequently.

**SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATION**

The Library continues to encourage a life-long love of books and reading through its early literacy initiatives. During the Jan-Mar 2020 period, Library staff hosted 65 separate early learning sessions, reaching 493 children; also hosting 18 school holiday craft and storytelling sessions, to an audience of 200 children.

The Library’s Youth programs met 14 times during Jan-Mar 2020, with 96 attendees.

There were also 14 events held for adults, including Book Groups and History talks – these events were attended by 177 adults.

EBooks, audiobooks and online magazines continue to be added to the Library’s online platforms, providing a diverse offering of adult fiction, biographies, young adult and children’s titles, and online magazines, available 24/7. The Library continues to investigate opportunities to partner with other Central West libraries in consortia arrangements, maximising our online lending capacity while minimising our financial outlay.

The Library continues to engage with the community through regular newspaper features, items in Council’s Community newsletter, and via the Library’s Facebook page. An email is sent monthly to schools, school librarians, Book Group and other interested community members, and includes promotional materials, instructions for use of targeted online resources, news of upcoming Library events, and recommended reading lists.

### Community Plan implications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Looking After Our Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goal</td>
<td>A safe and healthy community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy</td>
<td>Maintain the provision of high quality, accessible community services that meet the needs of our community</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Strategic implications

Council Strategies
The Library Services – Quarterly Report has been developed in line with the 2017/18 – 2020/21 Delivery Program.

Council Policies
The Library Services – Quarterly Report has been developed in line with the Collection Management Strategy.

Legislation
Not applicable.

Financial implications
Not applicable.

Associated Risks
Not applicable.

MICHELLE MAUNDER
MANAGER LIBRARY SERVICES

SIMON JONES
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY

2 June 2020

Attachments: Nil

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM
GENERAL MANAGER